

HOUSE RESOLUTION 321  
By Hagood

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Mr. Dott A. Baker on the occasion of his 85th birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should honor those individuals who are celebrating momentous occasions in their life; and

WHEREAS, on May 1 of this year, Mr. Dott A. Baker will be celebrating his 85th birthday, a milestone that will be commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, Dott Baker was born May 1, 1919, in Sevier County to the Reverend and Mrs. Arthur Freeman Baker; and

WHEREAS, when his father attended Southern Seminary in Louisville, the family moved to Kentucky; Dott sold papers at Churchill Downs before his family returned to the Mountain View community in Knoxville, Tennessee, in the 1930s; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Knoxville High School, Mr. Baker met his wife, Mildred "Susie" Lytle Baker, at school; the couple celebrates 64 years of marital bliss together this year; and

WHEREAS, in 1954, the Bakers founded the Dott Baker Agency, a real estate and insurance company in Southern Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, this company has been instrumental in the development of numerous subdivisions in the community, including Grandview, Crossfield, Woodfield Park, Wildwood, View Park, and several others in the Seymour area; and

WHEREAS, as the owner and operator of this business, Mr. Baker has sold homes and insurance to hundreds of Knoxville residents; and

WHEREAS, he also was a driving force behind the development of the South Knoxville Bridge, an addition that has facilitated traffic flow and helped to connect the community; and

WHEREAS, the Insurance Women of Knoxville named Dott Baker their Executive of the Year in 1990; and

WHEREAS, in addition to founding and operating a successful business, Dott Baker has shared his many talents and abilities with the Knoxville community; he was a member of the Chamber of Commerce for 21 years, the Metropolitan Planning Commission for eight years, the Lions Club for several decades, and is a Mason; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baker participated in the planning for the 1982 World's Fair and assisted in the organization of the Lions Club international convention, held in Gatlinburg in the 1960s; he has also chauffeured many dignitaries in parades and other events in his 1938 Rolls Royce; and

WHEREAS, others have noted his impressive achievements, including former Governor Lamar Alexander who named him a "Tennessee Colonel" in 1983; he was named a "Kentucky Colonel" in 1972; and

WHEREAS, an avid Volunteers' fan, his family and friends say that Dott's blood runs orange; he was a member of the Most Loyal Vol Fan Club and continues to hold football season tickets; and

WHEREAS, in his free time, he enjoys playing golf with his friends every Thursday; and

WHEREAS, a longtime and devout member of Valley Grove Baptist Church, he has been a resident of Knoxville for over sixty years; and

WHEREAS, he still enjoys the love and companionship of his wife, Susie; he is the consummate father to his three daughters and sons-in-law and a devoted grandfather to his seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, his family and friends will join in the celebration of Mr. Baker's illustrious eighty-five years of life this May 1; and

WHEREAS, there is no better reward than the life fully lived, and Dott A. Baker has drawn deeply from the well of life for eighty-five years, surrounding himself with honorable friends and loving family and striving always to give aid to those in need; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we

congratulate Dott A. Baker upon the celebration of his eighty-fifth birthday and send our wishes for many fulfilling years in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.